



Mass Intentions

November 19 - November 25

Monday, 11/19	9:00 a.m. Alexander Velasco
Tuesday, 11/20	9:00 a.m. Reverend Arnold De Porter
Wednesday, 11/21	9:00 a.m. Guy Beaven 7:30 p.m. Robert Balkam
Thursday, 11/22	10:00 a.m. <i>In Thanksgiving</i>
Thanksgiving	
Friday, 11/23	9:00 a.m. Edna Mae Serchak
Saturday, 11/24	9:00 a.m. Bob Coyne 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i>
Sunday, 11/25	8:00 a.m. Robert Balkam 9:30 a.m. Josephine Biasini 11:15 a.m. Mary Ellen Sawyer 5:00 p.m. Robert Balkam

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Ray Spieler, Al Procopio, Roberta Connors, wife of Bill Connors, Frances Gloria Mc Anallen, aunt of Linda Call, Reverend Joseph Kleinstuber, Archdiocese of Washington.

Please pray for the sick...Sandra Powell, Fr. Richard Gancayo, Cecilia Bussard, Margaret Weiss Behrus, Heidi Weiss Beedie, Brian Ridder, 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 18, 2018

Sunday:	Dn 12:1-3/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32
Monday:	Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Rv 2:17]/Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday:	Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5 [Rv 3:21]/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday:	Rv 4:1-11/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b]/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday:	Rv 5:1-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [Rv 5:10]/Lk 19:41-44
Friday:	Rv 10:8-11/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 [103a]/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday:	Rv 11:4-12/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 [1b]/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday:	Dn 7:13-14/Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5 [1a]/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37

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, Blessed Nunzio Sulprizio, 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 Nunzio Sulprizio. I am going to base my remarks about him on the short biography published recently in the English edition of *Osservatore Romano*.

Nunzio Sulprizio was born on April 15, 1817 to a poor but joyful couple in Pescosansonesco, in the Abruzzi region of Italy (located in central and southern Italy). By the time he was just six years old, Nunzio had lost both of his parents and was entrusted to the loving care of his maternal grandmother.

His grandmother taught him to love the consecrated Host in which Jesus, friend of souls and consolation of the dying, could be found. Every day Nunzio knelt before the tabernacle in the parish church and prayed to the Lord, which filled him with a joy that never abandoned him even in the many trials and sufferings that he was to endure in life.

After the death of his grandmother when he was just nine, he was entrusted to a surly and violent uncle who took him on as an apprentice blacksmith and forced him into hard labor, working long hours on an empty stomach. He was not allowed to go to church, was punished with beatings and curses, and sometimes went hungry for weeks at a time. As he grew weaker, Nunzio fell gravely ill, and a deep wound opened on his left ankle, the first sign of bone tuberculosis.

Despite his suffering and mistreatment, Nunzio never failed to be joyful. His health worsened considerably, prompting kind neighbors to contact one of his uncles, who sent for him from Naples. He was taken to the home of Felice Wochinger, a warm-hearted nobleman and a colonel in the Royal Guard. He became like a father to Nunzio.

When Nunzio's condition became even more serious, he was sent to the Hospital of the Incurables. He spent twenty-one months in treatment there, and was frequently able to receive the Holy Eucharist, which had been denied him for so long.

While he was in the hospital, Nunzio dedicated himself to the poorest patients, giving them food and comfort, and helping the nurses in their duties. At night, stretched out on the floor, he prayed for the forgiveness of his sins and those of others. One night, he changed the bandages of a man who was dying of cancer and prayed with him till dawn. When the doctors came to discharge the man so that he could die at home, they discovered the cancer had completely disappeared.

Nunzio had hoped to become a priest, but his illness continued on its relentless course until he died on May 5, 1836 at the age of nineteen. Hearing of Nunzio's passing, crowds gathered at his home, calling for his sainthood. Numerous miraculous episodes have since been attributed to his intervention. He was beatified by St. Paul VI on December 1, 1963.

Until next week,
Fr. John

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How does not knowing when the end will come change the way I live my life?

WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

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

Charles Gichohi & Agnes Wandeto
Erik Rivera & Marimee Carrasco
Diana & Christopher Irby
Monir & Michelle Salman
Melanie Salman
Eirete De Jesus
Clifferson & Cecilia Della
Joseph & Cassie Murphy

The following children were baptized during the month of October:

Meara Rose Murphy
Conor Christian Salman
Landon Christian Ward

HAVE YOU RESPONDED TO GOD'S CALL TO LOVE & SERVE?

St. Francis parishioners, thank you for celebrating Commitment Sunday with us this weekend. Your commitment to our parish through our "Responding to God's Call to Love and Serve" Offertory Stewardship Campaign will continue to bring life to our St. Francis community. If completing your Commitment Card was not possible at Mass, an invitation to respond will be mailed later this week to your home. Please return your Commitment Card to the office this week or in next week's collection. If you have not done so, join the many others and give your gift online through Faith Direct, our online giving program. You can sign up for safe and secure online offertory giving, by going to www.sfadw.org and clicking on 'Give' and 'Online Giving.' For more information or if you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407. Please pray for a successful Offertory Stewardship Campaign!

PLEASE SIGN UP TO WORK THE CHRISTMAS TREE SALE BEGINNING NOVEMBER 24

When the chainsaws come out and the bonfires start roaring, you know it's time for the St. Francis Christmas Tree Sale! Volunteers of all ages are 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, November 24 in the front lawn of the church. Volunteers are needed to 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 sign up in the Gathering Space on November 17 and 18 after all Masses. For more information, contact Christmas Tree Sale Ministry Coordinator Brian Pettit at brianpettit@pettitcompanies.com or call him at (240) 372-1662.

YOUNG ADULTS & FAMILIES, JOIN US FOR AN UPCOMING FOOD AND FINANCE SEMINAR

As young adults and young families get started in life, they are often too caught up in the day-to-day chaos of life to think about their finances in a strategic way. If you want to learn more about sound financial practices, such as reducing your expenses, budgeting, investing and leveraging your earnings to put you and your family on a stable path, then come to one of our upcoming Food and Finance Seminars, sponsored by the Adult Faith Formation Team.

The free Food and Finance Seminars are designed to give attendees an informative and fun overview of finances – a session that will increase attendees' financial knowledge and deepen their monetary acumen. The session is modeled after similar seminars offered by St. John Neumann Catholic Church, which elicited rave reviews.

The sessions, which will be offered in both English and Spanish, will be on the following dates:

- Friday, November 30 from 6:30-8 pm in the Parish Center (English session)
- Thursday, December 6 from 6:30-8 pm in the Parish Center (English session)
- Sunday, December 9 from 6:30-8 pm in the Rectory's Assisi Room (Spanish session)

The sessions will include a **free dinner by Chipotle** and **time for fellowship. Babysitting will be provided by the Love of One Another Ministry.** Please join us for one of these fun and informative sessions and bring a friend! It is important that you RSVP to Deacon Dan Finn at deacondanfinn@gmail.com, so that we know the need for babysitting and for how much food to plan. For more information, contact Deacon Dan.

JOIN THE NEW ST. FRANCIS SPANISH MINISTRY IN PRAYER

Have you heard of St. Francis' new Spanish Ministry? The ministry, which kicked off in October, is open to all Spanish speakers in St. Francis of Assisi Parish. The ministry is currently sponsoring a Spanish Rosary recited at 6:30 pm on the first and third Tuesday of the month in the church. Please join us as we pray! If you interested in joining the Spanish Ministry, please contact Ministry Coordinator Lourdes Garcia at lagarcia@comcast.net.

November 18, 2018

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING The Lamb of God Prayer Group will not meet on Tuesday, November 20. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next week-end will go to the Prison Ministry Outreach Program. 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.

DO YOU LIKE CRAFTING? JOIN IN DECORATING CHRISTMAS WREATHS ON NOVEMBER 23 & 24

Calling all crafters! Craftspeople of any level and enthusiasm are invited to help decorate fresh Christmas wreaths that will be sold when the parish Christmas Tree Sale opens on Saturday, November 24. Two wreath decorating sessions will be held from 6:30-9 pm Friday, November 23, in the Rectory's Youth Room and from 9 am-1 pm Saturday, November 24, also in the Youth Room. Bring wire cutters, gardening gloves and some finger food to share. For more information, please contact parishioner Carolyn Brauer at carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com.

REMINDER
THANKSGIVING MASS
10:00 A.M.

No 9:00 Daily Mass



THANKSGIVING ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Tonight, 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.

WORDS OF POPE JOHN PAUL II GIVEN NEW LIFE DURING BROWN BAG CONVERSATIONS ON THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

If you admire the teachings of St. Pope John Paul II, then the December Brown Bag Conversations are designed for you. From September 1979 to November 1984, then-Pope John Paul II gave a series of addresses that delved into Christ's words on marriage, adultery, celibacy, virginity and contraception. The body of addresses became known as 'Theology of the Body,' and these will be discussed anew before St. Francis parishioners during next month's Brown Bag Conversations at 1 pm Sunday, December 2 and Sunday, December 9, in the Rectory's Assisi Room.

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?

Doors open at 12:45 pm for fellowship before the discussion begins at 1 pm. For more information, contact Adult Faith Formation Team Member Medy DeAusen at medy-deausen@comcast.net.

FOOD BIN STILL NEEDS DONATIONS DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

As we all prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving with family, friends and loved ones on November 22, please remember the individuals and families in our community without a bounty of food this holiday season. The St. Francis Food Pantry Ministry asks all St. Francis parishioners to donate non-perishable food items to the Food Pantry bin in the Gathering Space throughout November and December to ensure our brothers and sisters receive the nourishment they need. For more information, please contact Food Pantry Ministry Co-Coordinators Carolyn Brauer at carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com or Christine Young at

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.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE SESSION: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Confirmation candidates will meet next Monday, November 19, for Confirmation class from 6:45-8:30 pm in the Parish Center.

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.)

CHRISTMAS STOCKING HELP LINE

Religious Education families are invited to participate in the *Christmas Stocking Help Line*, an Advent project to benefit children and families in need. Items needed will be listed on "stockings" hung in the Parish Center during RE class times beginning November 18. Families may choose to take one or more stockings, purchase the items listed, and return them to RE classes by December 11. Letters with more information about this project will be given to students in RE classes.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School *We are...St. Jude* www.StJudeRockville.org

THANK YOU! In this season of thanksgiving we at SJRCS want to thank you, our St. Francis families, for your support of the school. A heart-felt thank you for all you have done for SJRCS this year!

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA – DEC 15

Join us in the Thaddeus Room on Saturday, Dec. 15 from 9—11am for Breakfast with Santa. The Holiday Shoppe will be open for kids to buy presents for family and friends. Games, crafts, and gift wrapping will also be available. Please e-mail Sandra Cortez at scortez1108@gmail.com for more information about this event.

ARCHDIOCESE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Applications for the 2019-2020 Archdiocese of Washington Tuition Assistance Program are now being accepted online at <https://adwcatholicsschools.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.

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.

INTERESTED IN BUYING SEE'S CANDIES

Today's bulletin insert includes a form for buying See's Candies in support of the St. Francis Youth Group! The money and order form are due **no later than Tuesday, December 4th!** Forms can be dropped off either in the Parish Office or in the box on the youth table in the Gathering Space - please make checks payable to St. Francis. Candies will be available by pickup the weekend of December 15/16 in the Gathering Space. Please make sure to include your name, phone number, and if you have a normal Mass time on the order form to help facilitate pick up. The Youth Group receives up to 50% of the sale of each item. Please feel free to offer this great deal to family and friends! Any questions please email Fr. Jack at sfayouth@sfadw.org or call the Parish Office 301-840-1407. *Thank you for supporting SFA Youth!*

PARISH OFFICES WILL CLOSE FOR THANKSGIVING @ 12:00 NOON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 AND OPEN AGAIN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26.

*Happy Thanksgiving
from Fr. John , Fr. Jack
& the Parish Staff!*

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 mcdonaldd@adw.org or (301) 853-4466.

ADVENT DAY RETREAT

"LIVE WITH ST. ELIZABETH OF THE TRINITY"

Please come to an Advent Day Retreat: "Live with St. Elizabeth of the Trinity" on Saturday December 1, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. This day of recollection and prayer will be led by Father Ted Trinko, IVE, a priest from the contemplative branch of the Institute of the Incarnate Word who is currently serving at the Basilica and at the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in Emmitsburg. Beginning with Mass at 9 o'clock in the Basilica, the day will include two conferences by Father Ted on the life, spirituality and legacy of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, and before each one we will hear selected readings from the writings of the Saint herself. "You must build a little cell within your soul as I do. Remember that God is there and enter it from time to time; when you feel nervous or you're unhappy, quickly seek refuge there and tell the Master all about it." You will experience the prayer of recollection, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. The day ends at 4 o'clock. The cost is \$5. Please come, bring your own lunch, and invite your family and friends to share this Advent Day Retreat. Organized by the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites, Frederick, Maryland. For more information call Ken Vaughan at 301-473-5112

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASS IN SPANISH

The Office for Family Life is hosting an introductory Natural Family Planning class in Spanish on Saturday December 15, 2018 and January 12, 2019. It will be held in Room 301 of St. Andrew's Mission in Silver Spring, MD (12247 Georgia Ave.). A couple must attend both Saturdays to learn the method. Fee is \$40 to cover for materials. To register, send an email to the Office for Family Life at signovisible@adw.org or call 301-853-4499

GIVE THE GIFT OF SERVICE

Catholic Charities DC encourages you to give back by taking advantage of a variety of volunteer opportunities available in Washington, DC and southern Maryland. For more information on volunteering with Catholic Charities, or to register to volunteer, visit catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer.

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.

WALK WITH MARY

The Archdiocese of Washington's annual *Walk with Mary* procession and Mass to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, will take place on Saturday, December 1 with theme "Under Her Mantle." The gathering for the procession will start at 11:30am at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart (6th St. & Park Rd., NW), and the procession will conclude at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (4th St. & Michigan Ave., NE). Following the praying of the Rosary at 1 pm, Mass at the Basilica will begin at 2:30p m, with Cardinal Donald Wuerl as the main celebrant and Bishop Mario Dorsonville as the homilist. For more information, visit adw.org/wwm or search on social media using #WalkwithMary.

CATHOLIC SINGLES OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Catholic Singles of Greater Washington is an organization for single Catholics, ages 21-65 plus, enjoying each other's company in a wide variety of social, religious, and cultural settings. Visit <http://CatholicSinglesOfGreaterWashington.org> for additional information.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

God Most High,

Before your Son fed the multitudes, he first gave thanks.
Before he raised his friend Lazarus, he first gave thanks,
That all might know your glory.

And so, as we are blessed to do your works in the world,
That all, indeed, might know your glory
We thank you and praise you, O Lord.

For the grace to feed the poor ...

◆ ... *we thank you and praise you, O Lord.*

For the grace to heal the sick ...

◆ ... *we thank you and praise you, O Lord.*

For the grace to lift up the broken ...

◆ ... *we thank you and praise you, O Lord.*

For the grace to harbor the refugee ...

◆ ... *we thank you and praise you, O Lord.*

For the grace to aid the endangered ...

◆ ... *we thank you and praise you, O Lord.*

For the grace to speak on behalf of the marginalized and vulnerable ...

◆ ... *we thank you and praise you, O Lord.*

For the grace to be for the prisoner, the addict, the lost, the outcast, the dying

What your Son has been for us

A comfort, a beacon, a shepherd, a rabbi, a healer, a hope

The salt of the earth, the light of the world ...

◆ ... *we thank you and praise you, O Lord.*

Amen

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.