

Mass Intentions

August 27 - September 2

Monday: 8/27	9:00 a.m. Fr. Don Worch
Tuesday: 8/28	9:00 a.m. Josephine Biasini
Wednesday: 8/29	9:00 a.m. Michael Moore 7:30 p.m. Natividad D. Roxas
Thursday: 8/30	9:00 a.m. Gilbert Reising
Friday: 8/31	9:00 a.m. Josephine Biasini
Saturday: 9/1	9:00 a.m. Thomas McCarthy 5:00 p.m. Richard Hunt
Sunday: 9/2	8:00 a.m. The De Castro Family (L) 9:30 a.m. Erlinda Quemuel 11:15 a.m. <i>Pro populo</i> 5:00 p.m. Taylor Hyland (L)

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Paul Charles Callan..

Please pray for the sick... 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 August 26, 2018

Sunday:	Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/Eph 5:21-32 /Jn 6:60-69
Monday:	2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5 [3]/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday:	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday:	2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mk 6:17-29
Thursday:	1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51
Friday:	1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21 [12]/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday:	Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Greg Erlandson, Director and Editor-in-chief of Catholic News Service, recently published a column in the Boston Pilot, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Boston that was entitled "A crisis regarding the responsibility of Church authorities." In his column Mr. Erlandson gives four take-aways in the wake of the recently issued Pennsylvania Grand Jury report, revelations about Archbishop McCarrick, and other allegations that come to light regarding seminaries. Let me summarize these for you now. Then I want to talk about one of his take-way points at greater length. Here are his four take-aways:

1. The bishops today must convincingly demonstrate a spirit of repentance and commitment. Their recommitment must involve greater accountability and transparency for which they must have the support of the Vatican.
2. Many are calling for the laity to have a greater role in investigations and in future decision-making. The Church needs lay men and women to be actively involved in the purification and renewal of the Church. There should also be a renewed appreciation of the church's own media in informing and forming Catholics.
3. Much has changed since the scandals have rocked the Church in 2002. Extensive procedures for training young people, for background checks, and for reporting violations have been put into place. Victims are much more likely now to be treated with sympathy and their reports taken seriously.
4. Solving the problem of sexual abuse and accountability in the Church will not solve the problems of sexual abuse and accountability in society. There are an estimated 60,000 cases of child abuse in the United States each year. If we multiply that by seventy (the number of years covered in the Pennsylvania Grand Jury report), we come to an estimate of 4,200,000 cases—a truly horrifying number. Granted that abuse in the larger society is no excuse for the 301 priests (about 5 percent of all priests who served in those six Pennsylvania dioceses over the seventy year period) who are guilty of abusing at least 1,000 victims.

Mr. Erlandson concludes his remarks with the hope that if any good is to come out of this long tragedy, the Church (which has been humiliated and is the object of scorn) may be able to contribute at some point to the much greater healing that needs to take place both in our country and our world.

Finally, let me mention that the Archdiocese of Washington established in July 2002 a Child Protection Advisory Board that reports directly to the archbishop. There are currently five members on the board who have a particular knowledge, insight, or expertise in the protection of minors, and serve three year terms.. The Board meets several times each year, has updated the Archdiocesan Child Protection Policy and publishes an annual report on Archdiocesan efforts in the area of child protection

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

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

It is time to take a stand. Can I say, like Simon Peter, "I believe"? Can I say, like Joshua, "I will serve the Lord"? How can I show others where I stand?

DISCUSSION ON SUFFERING TO YIELD INSIGHTS ON FACING THIS CROSS WITH FAITH

It's not too late to join the second part of the August Brown Bag Conversation on the topic of "Spirituality in Aging," to be held at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, August 26 in the Assisi Room of the Rectory. Fr. John Dillon will lead the session on "Suffering," discussing how we can face this inevitable cross in the context of St. John Paul II's apostolic exhortation, "On the Christian Meaning of Human Suffering." Doors will open at 12:45 p.m., so participants can enjoy their meal and some fellowship before the discussion starts at 1:00 p.m.. For more information, please contact Adult Faith Formation Team Member Medy DeAussen at medy-deaussen@comcast.net.

ARE YOU MISSING SOMETHING?

Perhaps for some reason, you were not able to complete your Sacraments of Initiation, which consist of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Have you been attending Mass with your Catholic spouse or fiancé? Would you like to know more about the Catholic faith?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA may be for you. Classes will begin meeting in mid-September, but now is the time to get information.

For more information, we invite you to call or e-mail Terry Davis (301-774-0783, e-mail davistj23@gmail.com) or Sara Dean (301-977-6373, e-mail sgdean129@gmail.com). There is no obligation, just information. You can also visit the parish website www.sfadw.org for more information about the RCIA Program here at St. Francis.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

The Advisory Board is in addition to the Archdiocesan Case Review Board, established in 1993 to assist the archbishop in assessing allegations and fitness for ministry. If you would like to have a copy of their latest report covering July 1, 2016—June 30, 2017, please let me know and I will be happy to send you a copy of it.

Perhaps, most important of all, if you have been a victim of child sexual abuse, please contact the Office of Child and Youth Protection. The Executive Director of the Office of Child Protection is Courtney Chase, LCSW-C, LICSW. You can contact her at 301-853-5302, so that you may get the assistance that you need.

Until next week,
Fr. John

SMALL GROUP NEWS:

Men of Emmaus Invite New Members to Sleep in Later

The Men of Emmaus – otherwise, known as The Church Guys – are changing their meeting time for their 90-minute Saturday morning gatherings. Join them at 8:30 a.m. Saturdays in the Rectory's Youth Room for coffee and doughnuts, with reading and discussion starting at 9:00 a.m. The group of men, whose members include teenagers to recent retirees, focuses on reading and discussing Sacred Scripture, but has also tackled spiritual materials, such as books by C.S. Lewis, and spiritual development materials. If you enjoy food and fellowship and want to experience a greater understanding of God's call in your life, then please join the Men of Emmaus. The group also occasionally attends retreats together and enjoys camaraderie within and outside their weekly meetings. For more information, contact Men of Emmaus Coordinator Wendel Hall at wendel@halllawoffice.net.

Sunday Mass Preparation Small Group Seeking New and Occasional Members

The Sunday Mass Preparation Small Group is looking for new members to join us! A group of mothers with children under 10 years old, we invite parishioners in all life stations who want to better prepare to hear the Sunday Mass readings, but can tolerate a few children underfoot while doing so. Members gather at 9:30 a.m. Thursdays at the home of parishioner Eve Sergeyko. The group begins with coffee and breakfast foods before delving into Sunday readings and discussions. If you are interested in a less structured Small Group with a group of parents seeking to deepen their faith while raising young children, then please join us! Drop ins are also welcome! For more information, contact Small Group members Melissa Egan at Melissa.egan74@verizon.net or Eve Sergeyko at esergeyko@gmail.com.

SECOND ANNUAL HOLY LAND FILM TO KICK OFF SEPTEMBER 23

Please save the dates for the 2nd Annual Voices from the Holy Land Film Series, which will screen films with Holy Land themes at various area faith communities, including one at St. Francis of Assisi church, in September and October. The following films will be shown for free from 2:30-4:30 pm on these dates:

- September 23: *Thank God It's Friday* at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Gaithersburg.
- October 7: *Roadmap to Apartheid*, at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, Montgomery Village.
- October 21: *Disturbing the Peace*, at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Derwood.
- October 28: *Gaza in Context: Gaza: A Gaping Wound*, Islamic Center of Maryland, Gaithersburg.

Please attend. The films are supported by several different faith communities and groups, including the St. Francis of Assisi Pax Christi Ministry. For more information, contact Pax Christi Ministry member Bob Cooke at cookerh1251@gmail.com.

August 26, 2018

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING The Lamb of God Prayer Meeting will **NOT** meet on Tuesday, August 28th. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next week-end will go to Gaithersburg Help. (*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.

MONDAYS FOR DISCOVERING CHRIST

Have you seen the Lord with your heart? Do you feel the presence of the Lord in your life or are you still trying to meet Him? If this sounds like you, then join the **Discovering Christ** course beginning **October 1**.

Discovering Christ is a fun and encouraging seven-week course designed to bring us into a personal relationship with the Lord and His Church. In this course:

- *Learn* about the meaning of life and why we need to cultivate our relationship with Jesus.
- *Attend* a one-day retreat to help you receive a new life in the Holy Spirit and His transforming graces.
- *Get inspired* to believe in and belong to the Church because we can't face life on our own.

Each session includes dinner, prayer and worship, a DVD teaching and small group discussions. Registration is **FREE**, and all attendees must register since seating is limited. On-site registration will take place **September 8/9** in the Gathering Space after all Masses. For more information, please see attached flyer or contact ChristLife Series Ministry Coordinator Medy DeAusen at SFADCHRIST@COMCAST.NET.

SAVE THE DATE OCTOBER 13, 2018 ST. FRANCIS FALL MINISTRY WORKSHOP

Theme: "Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord"
Open to members of any St. Francis ministry.
Questions? Contact Social Concerns Minister, Tony Bosnick, 301-840-1407, Ext. 11 or abosnick@sfadw.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Have you ever considered joining a music group, but never took the leap? Come join the **Contemporary Folk Group** and praise the Lord with us in song! Singers and instrumentalists are welcome. The Contemporary Folk Group leads music at the 11:15 a.m. Mass and practices at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. We are an intergenerational group and welcome people of all ages. Any children interested in joining should be nine years old and older. For more information, e-mail Sue Madison at musikal76@msn.com or call her at (301) 977-6854. You can also contact John Ryan at (301) 977-2690.

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Are you interested in getting involved in St. Francis' Music Ministry but have never taken the plunge? Now is a great time to get involved. Established and interested musicians of all ages are invited to participate in some of these music opportunities at St. Francis:

* **Traditional Choir:** The Traditional Choir sings at the 9:30 a.m. Mass beginning in September and rehearses on Thursday evenings. Anyone high school age and older is welcome. The ability to read music is *not* a requirement – only a pleasant singing voice and a willingness to learn.

* **Cantors** for the 5:00 p.m. Vigil, 8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. Masses.

* **Children's Choir:** The Children's Choir will sing at a 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass about once a month, with rehearsals held on Tuesdays beginning in October. Children in second grade and up are welcome to participate.

* **Instrumentalists:** Students middle school-aged or older who are actively studying an instrument and would like to occasionally play at Mass are invited to join our group of musicians. If you are interested in joining the St. Francis Contemporary Folk Group, please contact Sue Madison at musikal76@msn.com. If you have interest in any of the other Music Ministry roles, please contact St. Francis Director of Music Janet Pate at sfadwmusic@gmail.com or at (443) 812-5585.

HANDICAP PARKING SPACES

The Handicap Parking Spaces located directly in front of the church are for those parishioners who truly are unable to walk a long distance to get to the church. Unless you have an official Handicap Tag/Sticker, you shouldn't be parking there. Please be considerate of those who truly need this accommodation.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR 2018-2019

Please return registration forms by September 1 so that we can be ready to welcome your child to class on the first day!

Registration fees can be paid at a later date. Even if you're still working out details of your family's schedule, please return a registration form now, marking your best guess for session time with a note that this is subject to change.

Find registration forms on the parish web site (www.sfadw.org), in the Church Gathering Space, and in the Parish Office. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Completed forms can be mailed, or dropped off in person at the Rectory Office (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.).

Classes begin September 16, 17, and 18. Calendars are posted to the parish website, and will be mailed in early September to all who have registered.

Our program offerings for children and youth include:

- Pre-school and Kindergarten classes on Sunday mornings, 11:10-12:15 pm
(Preschool classes are for children age 3 or 4 by September 1)
- Grade 1-5 classes offered at two session times:
Sunday mornings, 9:20-10:35 am
Monday afternoons, 4:45-6:00 pm
- Grade 6, 7, and 8 classes offered at two session times:
Monday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm
Tuesday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm
- Grades 9-12 (Youth Group) meet Sunday evenings 6:00-8:00 pm (following the 5 pm Youth Mass)

Since our curriculum is designed to be taught in sequence and each year builds on the content presented in previous years, families should plan for their children to participate in Religious Education classes each year.

Religious Education staff will be in the Gathering Space after Masses next Sunday, August 26, to assist with registration and answer questions about classes and opportunities to volunteer. Please stop by!

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
- Classroom Aide
- Art Team Catechist
- Substitute
- Support for Service Projects
- 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

SAVE THE DATE

***YOUTH GROUP WILL START
SEPTEMBER 16 AFTER THE 5:00 MASS!***

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFADWYOUTH.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

Catch our Spirit

www.StJudeRockville.org

<http://www.facebook.com/stjuderockvillemid>

LOOKING FOR A FABULOUS PRESCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD?

St. Jude Preschool promotes independent, confident, lifelong learners. St. Jude Preschool offers exciting age-appropriate play-based and theme-based curriculum. Curriculum provides numerous opportunities for positive interaction with other children and adults. Financial assistance is available. All are welcome!

Class plans are flexible and differentiated and expose students to a wide range of experiences such as circle time, small group instruction, free play, music, art, library and physical education. For more information please contact Ellen Donnelly in the school office, 301-946-7888 or apply online at www.stjuderockville.org.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS AT ST. JUDE SCHOOL

If you wish to visit the school during the summer, our hours are 9-1 Monday through Thursday. Please be mindful of the parking lot paving project.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION *(continued)*

Registering for Sacramental Preparation

Sacramental preparation for 1st Reconciliation, 1st Eucharist, Confirmation, and Christian Initiation for Children/Teens (CIC/CIT) is not grade specific and involves preparation in addition to grade level Religious Education classes. At minimum, children are expected to have participated in religious education in the year prior to preparing for a sacrament. *Please note: students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will attend their grade-level Religious Education classes as well as monthly Confirmation sessions.*

Families requesting sacramental preparation for their child are asked to mark their registration form accordingly so that additional information can be provided. Please note that there is a separate materials fee for sacramental preparation programs. More details will be provided at the parent meetings next year.

If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.

LIVING THE GOSPEL SERIES CHALLENGES OTHERS TO EXAMINE, INCORPORATE THE GOSPEL IN THEIR DAY-TO-DAY LIVES

St. Francis of Assisi parishioners are invited to attend a series of retreats, workshops and discussions this fall that will help bring the Gospel to bear in our daily lives. A multi-parish collaboration of St. Camillus Church in Silver Spring, Church of the Resurrection in Burtonsville and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in White Oak, the series will help participants learn how to live the contemplative dimension of the Gospel and more deeply experience God's love. Join us for the following events taking place from September through December 2018:

- September 8: "Forgiveness," 9:30 am-4:30 pm, *Amadeo Room, Resurrection Parish*. Learn ways to practice forgiveness in our workplaces, homes and in social, political and church circles to satisfy our longing for the mercy of God and desire to be more forgiving. This all-day session will incorporate experiential exercises, talks, group discussion and prayer and will address the church's sex abuse scandal
- October 3: "Peaceful Parenting/Peaceful Kids," 7:30-9 pm, *gym of St. John the Baptist Church*. Interactive workshop led by Little Friends of Peace to help anyone interacting with children, but particularly teachers, parents, grandparents, community workers, and any other persons interested in taking part.
- November 3: "Healing the Effects of Substance Use Disorders," 9 am-1 pm, *St. Camillus*. Substance abuse disorders create pain in the lives of all people who are affected. The current opioid crisis has raised questions about the far-reaching consequences of these disorders. This session uses Jesus' teaching to address medical, psychological and spiritual ways to heal pain and act with compassion.
- December 29: "The Joy of God Is Yours," 9:30 am-4:30 pm, *school library, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church*. Learn to more deeply experience the joy of God amid the hustle and bustle of daily life as a new year arrives. This retreat includes teachings, spiritual practice, and interactive exercises. Let go of common ego attachments to surrender to God beyond the thinking mind through contemplation.

Registration for any of the sessions is encouraged. To register, please e-mail L.J. Milone at Lj.milone@sjbcatholicchurch.com. Please use the subject line, 'Living the Gospel.'

THE NUNS, THE PRIESTS & THE BOMBS

The Nuns, the Priests and the Bombs is a new documentary on nuclear weapons that will be shown in the Gathering Space on the information monitor on *Saturday evening, September 15th at 6:45 p.m.* Learn more about the current state of the world's nuclear weapons and about Catholic nuns, priests and lay people working to end this threat to humanity. Plowshare activists, including Sr. Megan Rice who is featured in the film, will be present to answer questions and help lead a discussion after the film is shown. Pizza will be served. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP AT ST. FRANCIS IT IS TIME TO TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR DIABETES

SATURDAYS SEPTEMBER 22-NOVEMBER 3

TIME: 9:30 a.m.-12:00 Noon, ASSISI ROOM

Join this FREE six-week workshop to better manage your health and maintain an active and fulfilling life while living with Type 2 Diabetes or Pre-Diabetes.

You Will Learn:

- Techniques to deal with diabetes symptoms, fatigue, pain, hyper/hypoglycemia, stress and emotional problems such as depression, anger, fear and frustration.
- Exercises for maintaining and improving strength/endurance.
- Healthy eating and appropriate use of medication.
- Working more effectively with health care providers.

Who should Attend?

- Anyone living with a diabetes or pre-diabetes
- Family members, friends and caregivers

Why Attend?

- Designed to build confidence, increase knowledge about symptom control and the disease's impact.
- Highly interactive and focused on skill-building, support and sharing experiences.
- Help one another solve problems during once weekly 2.5-hour small group workshops over six weeks.

About the Program: *This an evidence-based curriculum was developed by Stanford University with support from Kaiser Permanente. The Community Health Department of Holy Cross Health and Montgomery County Health and Human Services are sponsors.*

SAVE THE DATE ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR & FLEA MARKET Saturday, November 10

HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS

We will begin making crafts for the 2017 Holiday Bazaar on Wednesday September 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. If you enjoy being creative and socializing with fellow parishioners, please plan on attending. Also, projects can be taken home to work on.

VENDORS NEEDED

We are looking for vendors to sell their goods at the Bazaar. If you are interested in having a booth at the bazaar, please contact the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

We are looking for silent auction items such as Time Shares, Sports Tickets, Theater Passes, etc. for our Fall Bazaar (November 10). Items donated are a tax write-off! For more information or to make arrangements to donate, please call the Parish Office, Donna, (301) 840-1407.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED

Mother of God School, a vibrant private Catholic school located in Gaithersburg, MD, is in need of substitute teachers for grades PreK – 8. For further information, please contact Alice Garvey at agarvey@mogschool.com or call 301-990-2088 ext. 11.