



Mass Intentions

September 17 - September 23

Monday: 9/17	9:00 a.m. Oscar Palini
Tuesday, 9/18	9:00 a.m. Violette Payen
Wednesday, 9/19	9:00 a.m. Yolanda Costa 7:30 p.m. Bernard J. Kohan Jr. Family (L)
Thursday, 9/20	9:00 a.m. Edward O'Sullivan
Friday, 9/21	9:00 a.m. Guy Beaven
Saturday, 9/22	9:00 a.m. Petrona De Joya 5:00 p.m. Richard Hunt
Sunday, 9/23	8:00 a.m. <i>Pro populo</i> 9:30 a.m. Josephine Biasini 11:15 a.m. Christos Nicholson 5:00 p.m. Alice Build

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Paul McGowan, father of David McGowan.

Please pray for the sick... Bernard Kohan, Sr., Dennis Parnell, Frances Patrich, 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 September 16, 2018

Sunday:	Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35
Monday:	1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [1 Cor 11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday:	1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [3]/Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday:	1 Cor 12:31--13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22 [12]/Lk 7:31-35
Thursday:	1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28 [1]/Lk 7:36-50
Friday:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13
Saturday:	1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 [14]/Lk 8:4-15
Next Sunday:	Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16--4:3/Mk 9:30-37

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Labor Day has come and gone. School is back in session. This week we celebrate Catechetical Sunday. I am commissioning Catechists at all Masses this weekend. We also begin our Religious Education classes this week. For a parish to grow and flourish, parishioners need to contribute their time, talent, and treasure. I want to take the opportunity today to highlight some ways in which we can contribute our time and talent that will benefit all of us in the parish and also those to we reach out in love and service. Here are some ways to serve:

Religious Education

We all share responsibility for faith formation and the support of many volunteers make our programs successful. I am encouraged by the faithful service of some many in our faith formation programs. But there are still some needs to be filled. We need some additional catechists, classroom aides, art team catechists, substitutes, volunteers who would offer support with service projects, and people who would help with sacramental celebrations and special events. To learn more, please call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children five to nine years of age are invited to go to a separate location for the Liturgy of the Word to receive special age-appropriate proclamation and reflect on that day's readings. This occurs at the 11:15 a.m. Sunday Mass from September through June. We could use more members for the Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) prayer leader team. You don't have to be a parent to engage in this ministry, but you should be comfortable connecting with children of various ages. To learn more, please call Fr. John at the Rectory at 301-840-1407.

Haiti Ministry-Grant Writer

St. Francis Haiti Ministry is looking for a volunteer grant writer to help craft foundation grants. Some experience with grant writing is preferred, but not required. The person need not be a St. Francis parishioner, but should be willing to attend monthly meetings. We hope to have this position filled by this fall. If you are interested in serving as a grant writer, please contact our Haiti Ministry Coordinator Dan Cardile at dan.cardile@yahoo.com.

St. Francis Brew Crew-Servers

The Brew Crew is back by popular demand, serving coffee and doughnuts after the 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Masses today. This hospitality ministry is looking for friendly volunteers who will help purchase food and beverages and serve their fellow parishioners after the 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Masses on the third Sunday of the month from September to May. If you are interested in joining this ministry and promoting fellowship in our parish, please contact Ministry Coordinator Sylvia Jones at 301-762-6564.

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

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How am I denying myself? What is the cross I am bearing at this point in my life? With the grace of God, am I willing to carry it?

SAVE THE DATE

ST. FRANCIS FEAST DAY EVENTS

Friday, October 5 from 6-8:00 p.m.: Family Bingo in the Parish Center. We'll serve pizza and play 10 games of Bingo.

Sunday, October 7 from 12:30-4:30p.m. Parish Picnic on the church grounds.

- Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served from 12:30-3:30 p.m.
- Sign-up for food and desserts is in the Gathering Space this weekend!
- Come join us for food, games, crafts, face painting and the Blessing of Animals at 3:00 p.m.

See today's bulletin insert to RSVP. Look for volunteer sign-ups in the Gathering Space today.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Food Pantry—Processors

Volunteers for the St. Francis Food Pantry take turns emptying out the food donation bin in the Gathering Space and delivering food to the St. Martin Food Pantry. Members typically do a delivery once in a six-month period. Members also assist with the Archdiocesan Lenten Food Drive and the Mulholland Family Foundation's Summer in the City Food Drive. To Join the Food Pantry Ministry, please contact Ministry Co-ordinators Carolyn Brauer at carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com or Christine Young at youngbodywork@hotmail.com.

Music Ministry Volunteers Needed

Singers and instrumentalists are welcome to participate in the various music opportunities at St. Francis, including the Traditional Choir that sings at 9:30 a.m. Mass. The Traditional Choir practices on Thursday evenings. Cantors are also needed for the 5:00 p.m. Vigil, 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. Masses. For more information, please contact St. Francis Director of Music Janet Pate at sfadwmusic@gmail.com or 443-812-5585. The Contemporary Folk Group leads music at the 11:15 a.m. Mass and practices at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. The Contemporary Folk Group is an intergenerational group and welcomes people of all ages. Singers and instrumentalists are welcome. For more information, please contact Sue Madison at musikal76@msn.com or 301-977-6854. You can also contact John Ryan at 301-977-2690.

Until next week,

Fr. John

FRANCISCAN FRIAR AND PRIEST DISCUSSES HOW WE CAN APPLY THE CHURCH'S SOCIAL TEACHINGS TO OUR DAILY LIVES

On September 22/23, Fr. Jacek Orzechoski will address the 5:00 p.m. Vigil and Sunday morning Masses on Catholic Social Teaching, which encapsulate the importance of building a just society and living lives of holiness amid the challenges of modern society. Fr. Jacek, who works for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington in Parish Community Organizing and Advocacy, will talk about how the Church's social teachings can be applied to our daily lives, especially in relation to the General Election this November.

Next month, St. Francis parishioners are invited to take an active part in this discussion, with two Brown Bag Conversations on the Church's social teachings on Oct. 21 and 28. Social Concerns Minister Tony Bosnick will base one of the conversations on the book, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States." Please look out for more opportunities to learn about Catholic Social Teaching, which give Catholics an action-oriented outlook to live out their faith. For more information, contact Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

THANK YOU FOR PARISHIONERS' SUPPORT OF HOUSING FOR ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENT DIFFERENCES

Thomas F. Welch, Jr. president of Rosaria Communities, recently sent St. Francis of Assisi Parish a thank you card, expressing his gratitude for the \$500 from Parish Social Outreach offertory funds to support the nonprofit organization affiliated with the Archdiocese of Washington. Rosaria Communities fosters the building or renovation of housing to provide independent living for thousands of adults with developmental differences in the Washington DC area.

"It is very kind of your community to support our work with such unexpected generosity. Please be assured that 100 percent of these funds will be used to further our efforts toward providing affordable housing opportunities for developmentally disabled individuals in the Archdiocese of Washington," Mr. Welch wrote. Currently, four homes for adults with developmental differences are open, including in the communities of Brookeville, Gaithersburg and Silver Spring, MD. For more information, see www.rosaria-communitiesinc.org.

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, September 18, 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 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.

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.

MONEY COUNTERS NEEDED - The St. Francis Counting Ministry is seeking new members! Counters volunteer to process the weekend Mass offertory collections and any other revenue from the parish office on a rotating schedule. Tasks include opening parishioners' envelopes, tallying and verifying cash and checks for bank deposits and filing parishioners' envelopes. Please volunteer to conduct this trustworthy and necessary administrative function in our parish. For more information, please contact Ministry Coordinator Maryann Dembek, maryanndembek@gmail.com or call (301) 309-1325.

COMMUNITY EVENTS INCLUDE FILM, SCHOOL FUNDRAISER & FEAST DAY MASS FOR FILIPINO SAINT

- Film buffs, take note: on Sunday, September 23, the documentary "Thank God It's Friday" will be shown at 2:30 pm in the Duggan Room of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 11701 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg. As the first film in the 2nd Annual Voices from the Holy Land Film Series, this documentary reveals daily life in the Palestinian village, Nabi Saleh, and in its nearby Israeli settlement, Halamish. A panel discussion with Q&A will follow the free showing. For more information about this film series in Montgomery County, visit voicesfromtheholylnd.org. Questions? Call Bob Cooke at (301) 661-0449.
- On Friday, September 28, all are invited to attend a feast day celebration of St. Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila, a Filipino martyr in the 1600s who was tortured by water and chose to die for his faith. St. Lorenzo Ruiz is the patron saint of the Philippines, its youth, people working overseas and altar servers.
- Please attend a feast day Mass to be celebrated by the Most Rev. Mario E. Dorsonville, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, at 7 pm Friday, September 28, at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 9705 Summit Ave., Kensington. A reception will follow the Mass.
- On Saturday, September 29, runners and walkers of all ages and speeds are invited to participate in the 5K Run/Walk to benefit The Avalon School and the Brookewood School for Girls at the Agricultural Farm Park in Derwood. The fundraising event will begin at 9 am. Register for the event at www.avalonschools.org or at www.brookewood.org. Questions, contact Tabi McLoughlin at (301) 395-7314.

CATHOLIC-MUSLIM INTERFAITH DISCUSSION TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF, INSIGHT ON THE MUSLIM FAITH

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the Muslim faith and discover how it intersects with Catholicism? If so, then join us at the Catholic-Muslim interfaith discussion series kicking off from 9:30-11:30 am Saturday, September 22, in the Parish Center. Led by Imam Haytham Younis, the discussions will provide space for people to listen to perspectives, gain insight and exchange ideas on the Muslim faith and how Catholics perceive it. Participants who take part are encouraged to buy and read one of three books that will help inform the discussion:

- "Finding Jesus among Muslims" by Jordan Denari Duffne
- "Christian. Muslim. Friend: Twelve Paths to Real Relationship" by David Shenk or
- "What Would a Muslim Say" by Ahmeed Lotfy Rashed

The discussion series will run for three weeks, also meeting on Saturday, October 6, and Saturday, October 20. Drop ins are welcome but attending all three sessions is encouraged. For more information, please contact Social Concerns Minister Tony Bosnick, abosnick@sfadw.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR 2018-2019

CLASSES BEGIN THIS WEEK!

- Pre-K/K Classes begin on Sun., September 16,
11:10-12:15 pm
- Grade 1-5 Classes:
 - * Sunday Session begins on Sun., September 16,
9:20-10:35 am
 - * Monday Session begins on Mon., September 17,
4:45-6:00 pm
- Grade 6-7-8 Classes:
 - * Monday Session RE classes begin on Mon.,
September 17, 6:45-8:00 pm
 - * Tuesday Session RE classes begin on Tues.,
September 18, 6:45-8:00 pm

Children must be registered before they can begin classes. Space is still available in most classes and children are welcome to start classes once registration is received and processed. Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Space, the Parish Offices, and also on the parish website. Please call the Religious Education Office if need more information: 301-258-9193.

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

Catechetical Sunday, September 15/16

This week, we will celebrate **Catechetical Sunday** with the Commissioning of Catechists at all Masses. Please pray for our catechists, our students and all families as together we teach and share the faith this year!

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 first class meets Sunday, September 23 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY YOUTH GROUP STARTS TODAY SEPTEMBER 16 AFTER THE 5:00 MASS! IN THE PARISH CENTER

September

- 23 Youth Group
- 30 Youth Group

October

- 5 Family Bingo
- 7 No Youth Group - Parish Picnic
- 13/14 Bake Sale after all Masses
- 14 Youth Group
- 21 Youth Group
- 25 Fundraiser at Ledo's in Derwood
- 28 Youth Group

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFADWYOUTH.

MUSIC NOTES - The hymn "Take Up your Cross" is sung to an old melody, which dates from a 1543 German hymn collection *Geistliche Lieder*. Martin Luther wrote a text which was probably sung to this melody at a prayer service held in Wittenburg when an attack by the Turks seemed likely. The fabulous harmonization of this hymn heard today on the organ was written by J. S. Bach, who also wrote a cantata for choir and orchestra based on this hymn tune in 1725. The text we sing today was written as a poem by an Episcopal priest from Connecticut named Charles W. Everest in the mid 1800's.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued)

Ways to Serve

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

- Catechist
 - 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.

***"PLEASE CUT OUT & POST IN A PLACE OF
PROMINENCE IN YOUR HOME"***

Key Themes of Catholic Social Teaching:

- **Life and Dignity of the Human Person.** Human life is sacred and must be protected. Every person has God-given dignity.
- **Call to Family, Community and Participation.** Strong families are the cornerstone of our communities and need to be nurtured. We are called to participate in community life and work for the common good.
- **Rights and Responsibilities.** Our rights as human persons call us to be responsible members of society. We are called to care for others.
- **Option for the Poor and Vulnerable.** The test of a just society is how the poor and vulnerable are treated. We are called to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.
- **The Dignity and Rights of Workers.** Workers should be treated fairly and justly compensated for their labors.
- **Solidarity.** We are one human family and called to love and respect our neighbor, despite racial, ethnic, national or economic differences.
- **Care for God's Creation.** We show our respect for our Creator by our stewardship of creation and care for the environment where we live.

***For more information, search the web for:
USCCB Catholic Social Teaching***

DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Parishioners with Type 2 Diabetes or Pre-Diabetes are invited to attend a free, six-week Diabetes Self-Management Workshop beginning Saturday, September 22, in the Rectory's Assisi Room. Sponsored by the Community Health Department of Holy Cross Health and the Montgomery County Health and Human Services, the workshop series will help participants better manage their health and maintain a fulfilling life while living with this treatable disease. Participants will learn:

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

The workshop series will be from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Saturdays from September 22-November 3, except for October. 6. Anyone living with diabetes or pre-diabetes is welcome to attend, as well as family members, friends and caregivers. Participants are encouraged to attend all six sessions. Pre-registration is required. Interested participants can register online by going to <http://www.holycrosshealth.org/classes-events> or by calling (301) 754-8800. Questions, contact Jane Cashin at (703) 534-5247.

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.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

CHILDREN'S CHOIR REHEARSALS ON WEDNESDAYS

Got Voice? Bring it! All children in Grades 3 to 8 are invited to join the Children's Choir. Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays from 3:30pm – 4:30pm in the Music Classroom. For more information, contact Ms. White at Amy.White@StJudeRockville.org.

PRAISE BE! BUTTERFLY & HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN (named in honor of Pope Francis' encyclical). It may not be visually beautiful, but this garden is a way station for the Monarch butterflies. Stop by and see the caterpillars!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

October 19 – Octoberfest

November 3 – Bulldog Bolt & Fun Run

ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DIFFERENCES INVITED TO KICK UP THEIR HEELS ON SEPTEMBER 29

Put on your jeans, boots and cowboy hats and come join us for a hoedown! Upcounty Community Resources, a nonprofit organization that offers innovative programs, events and activities for adults with intellectual and developmental differences, will have its annual hoedown dance at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, September 29, in the St. Francis Parish Center. All are invited to celebrate with adults with all abilities or to volunteer. For more information, contact Special Needs Ministry Coordinator Sylvia Jones, (301) 762-6564.

**ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR
& FLEA MARKET**

Saturday, November 10

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.

JEWELRY DONATIONS

Please drop the jewelry off at the parish office or leave your treasured items in the mailbox on the Rectory porch if the office is closed.

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.

BAZAAR CRAFTERS

We have started making crafts for the 2018 Holiday Bazaar on Wednesdays 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.

KOC CAR RAFFLE Representatives from Montgomery Council 2323 of the Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets for the Maryland State Council Annual Car Raffle after all Masses this weekend. The tickets are \$1.00 each. Montgomery Council 2323 receives \$.60 for each ticket sold, and the entire proceeds will benefit the Pope John Paul II Seminarians.